

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 15808 182054Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3570

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD ENRG EFIN EMIN JA UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET-JAPANESE ECONOMIC RELATIONS: JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

TEN DAYS AWAY

REF: MOSCOW 14415 (NOTAL

1. IN MEETING WITH EMOBFF OCT 17, JAPANESE EMBASSY ECONOMIC
COUNSELO MIYANO DISCUSSED FORTHCOMING MEETING OF SOVIET-
JAPANESE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BEGIN
IN MOSCOW OCTOBER 29 AND CONTINUE THROUGH NOVEMBER 1.
TOTAL JAPANESE DELEGATION WILL BE ABOUT 80 PERSONS INCLUDING
EMBASSY MOSCOW PERSONNEL. GROUP COMING FROM TOKYO WILL TOTAL
74--39 FULL MEMBERS OF DELEGATION PLUS 35 EXPERTS AND
TECHNICIANS.

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2. MEMBERS OF DELGATION ARE LEADERS OF IMPORTANT FIRMS
IN JAPANESE INDUSTRY. THEY INCLUDE TOKYO GAS, OVERSEAS

PETROLEUM, NIPPON COKE, NIPPON MINING, MITSUBISHI, KOBE STEEL, ODJI PAPER, NIPPON PULP AND PAPER, SAKHALIN OIL, JAPAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION, MITSUI, YAMASHITA. BANKS INCLUDE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK, LONG-TERM CREDIT BANK, BANK OF TOKYO, INDUSTRIAL BANK. LEADERS OF DELEGATION WILL BE HONORARY PRESIDENT KEYDANREM (JAPANESE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION), UMARA, AND PRESIDENT OF JAPANESE CHAMBER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, NAGANO.

3. AGENDA FOR MEETING IS EXPECTED TO BE ALONG LINES REPORTED REFTEL, WITH EXCEPTION THAT SPECIAL ATTENTION MAY BE GIVEN TO ATTEMPTS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON JAPANESE INVESTMENT IN SIBERIAN PULP AND PAPER PLANT. PRESIDENT OF JAPAN'S LARGEST PAPER COMPANY, F. TANAKA, IS LEAVING MOSCOW WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS AFTER UNSUCCESSFUL MEETINGS WITH SOVIETS ON POSSIBLE JAPANESE INVESTMENT IN THIS PROJECT, WHICH WILL BE LOCATED EITHER ON YENISEY RIVER OR AT UNNAMED PLACE IN SOVIET FAR EASTERN REGION. SOVIETS INSISTING THAT BIDS FOR PROJECT BE MADE IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION. JAPANESE OBJECT THAT IF THIS IS CASE, THEY CAN NOT CONSIDER FINANCING THROUG LOW-INTEREST RATE BANK LOAN, BUT CAN ONLY OFFER SUPPLIER CREDITS AT PREVAILING MARKET INTEREST RATES. TANAKA WILL MAKE NEW EFFORTS DURING JOINT COMMISSION MEETING.

4. MIYANO SAID THAT JAPANESE DELEGATION NOW IS MOSCOW FOR NEGOTIATION OF AGREEMENT ON SAKHALIN OFFSHORE EXPLORATION HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN ITS TALKS AND AGREEMENT WILL BE SIGNED HERE SHORTLY.

5. ON OCTOBER 22 VICE PRESIDENT OF EXPORT-IMPORT BAND MAYEKAVA WILL COME TO MOSCOW FOR SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT ON TIMBER INDUSTRY PRODUCTION, WINDING UP NEGOTIATIONS ON THAT SECTOR OF JAPAN'S INVESTMENT IN SIBERIAN DEVELOPMENT.
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